

(1)

Weymouth

Tuesday

October 24th 71

I had nearly completed my notes & recollections of the Anti Slavery Fair when yours of yesterday came in. I think you will find in the sheets I send you with this, answers to most of the questions you propose. I have certainly given you all the information you required respecting the first 3 fairs & as it happens, in my discursive way of doing or rather telling, things I have noticed ^{already}

about which you enquire
that matter of the first
disaffection, which broke out
after smouldering a good
while in the "Clerical Appeal",
in the Midsummer of 1837
It was a curious document
signed by three ^{or 5} very insignificant
orthodox Annuitists who were
collectively used as a cat's paw by much
more important men.

The battle of the "Clerical
Appeal" was fought & won
at Worcester where a meet-
ing of the Mass. Anti Slavery
Society was held to examine
the matter. I was there &
it was a very exciting &
rich occasion - You may have

been there ^{two} as it was in your
neighbourhood but you
were perhaps not living
at Leicester then.

I shall never forget the
wretched & hangdog look
of the two clergymen present
as it were on trial, they
were the Rev ^{Chur} Fitch & Town
the former ~~the~~ pastor of the
Free Church, then recently
established at the Marlborough
Chapel - the third ^{Dr} ^{see}
the Rev. Jonas Perkins ^(now Exmouth minister) was not
present. Many men were
there ready to join the enemy
but not daring to come out
openly - & all the cursing &
^{hostile} contumace in the world was

employed. - to try to comfort
& uphold the poor wretches, who
without compromising them-
selves. I did not pity the
appellus ^{then} ~~at~~ ^{now} but I think
that they needed pity for they
had been, as it were bought
& sold by Lewis Tappan's forces,
& I don't doubt that ^{Mr.} Fitch
who was a great stout man,
evidently in good health, &
with ~~a~~ good prospects before
him, really suffered in his
conscience ^{& felt his misdeed's position.} - his health soon
failed & he died before the
battle was really joined (for
the struggle lasted a long time)
on his death bed he made
confession that he had done
thus from base & worldly
motives.

I have enclosed in the envelope
 you sent which I received this
 morning your letter for which
 many thanks. I have made
 a note or two in your letter
 & enclosed some statistics of
 the free fair which I think
^{include} ~~include~~ precisely the questions
 you ask. You had stated them
 in a previous letter. I
 am very sorry not to be
 able to go through the whole
 series but we have no files
 of Liberator or Standard -
 & I have no journals or
 notes relating to those times
 I had information respect-
 ing the St. fair & if you
 wish to read the reports of

the several frights in
the Boston Female Anti
Slavery Society, I can
lend them to you, they
were published in a Liberator
Extra - & I imagine can
hardly be found now.
You would find it very
amusing I am sure.

There will be no difficulty
in obtaining all the needed
information about ^{all} the
~~the~~ Fair after, 41. as full
reports of all our proceedings
were always printed in both
"Liberator" & A. S. Standard
The Boston Library has a

complete file of the "Liberator"

I hope that Mr Wilson
will go through with it to
the end - & I wish that
you would mention ^{to him} when you
come to ^{help us in} Boston - I know
that you had been at work
in Leicester for a long time
I will remember my brother
in law - H. G. Chapman going
into your neighborhood,
I think, on some A. S. business
& his pleasure in seeing
you - & his regrets that you
were not in Boston. Also
~~the~~ ^{pray} mention the time when
you dear Mother adopted
the Fair which ^{has} owed her
so much. I will hasten
now to give you some

account of the "Liberty bell"
It occurred to Mrs Chapman
while we were preparing
for the Jan of '39 that we
might publish some sort
of book to illustrate the
Fair by obtaining literary
contributions from Friends of
the Cause; & then we re-
membered that our beloved
& lamented Anne Greene Chapman
had ^{had} the idea of filling an
Album with contributions from
Anti-slavery friends - & had
made a beginning. - In the
last hours of her life she desired
that the book should be given
to Anne M. Weston who would
carry out her idea - many
articles were written for it -

in the two years following,
& it was decided that some of
them should be used for our
book - It ^{was} called the
"Liberty Bell" recalling the
Philadelphia Bell with
its motto "Proclaim Liberty
throughout the land to all
the inhabitants thereof"

The motto ^{on the Bell} which always pleased
me much, was furnished by
Mr Ellis Gray Loring.

The articles in the first
"Liberty Bell" were taken
from the album I have
mentioned, among them
was Phil's lines addressed
to men & women who were
in the cause from 31 to 35.

copy of
this
copy of
this
copy of
this

many accept it
years very appreciately Caroline Weston

The story of entitled
"Mother Celia" by
Mr Edmund Quincy,
which was written for
the album long before
the Liberty bell was printed
at Cambridge at the
Cambridge press & bore
date 1839. & as the subsequent
numbers bore after words
supposed to be published at
the new year, there remains
always a seeming gap
between the "Bell" of 1839
& that of 41 - we always
called the first Liberty bell
the "Bell" of 1839 & 40.

If I am not mistaken
there were 15 Liberty bells
The money necessary to the
publication of the Liberty bell
was always raised by Mrs
Chapman among her per-
sonal friends & the friends
of the cause. Most of the
numbers were edited by her,
a few of them by Anne
W. Weston. no part of the
expenses for printing &
binding came from the Fair
at any time.

I think this is all I have
to say about the Liberty
bell which certainly contained

Many anti-slavery testimonies
& much good literature
Elizabeth Browning gave
us two of her most
remarkable poems, &
some of the Lowells' best
things first appeared in
the Liberty Bell. Mrs Maria
Lowell, contributed some
very beautiful poems.
Dr Browning never forgot
us. The Guyton's Slaves
apostrophe to the North Stars
will be remembered as one
of the most touching of the
Pierpont's A.S. poems.
Our time feeds me to read

all the kind contributions made to the Liberty Bell
The first Liberty Bell was the